

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/820,702

Examiner

Thoi V. Duong

Applicant(s)

KIM, KYOUNG SUB

Art Unit

2871

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the amendment filed 12/12/2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) ~~is~~ are 1-18.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on December 12, 2005 has been entered.

Accordingly, claims 1, 7 and 12 were amended. Currently, claims 1-18 are pending in this application.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

2. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

The application has been amended as follows:

In the title: change the title as "Liquid crystal display device comprising a pad in contact with a light guide and maintaining a distance between a panel guide and a backlight assembly."

In the claims:

Claim 2: in line 2, after "between" delete "a" and insert --the--.

Claim 13: in line 2, after "between" delete "a" and insert --the--.

Allowable Subject Matter

3. Claims 1-18 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: none of the prior art of record fairly suggests or shows all of the limitations as claimed. Specifically,

Re claims 1, 7 and 12, none of the prior art of record discloses, in combination with other limitations as claimed, a liquid crystal display device comprising a panel guide provided between the backlight assembly and the liquid crystal panel to support the liquid crystal panel; and a pad provided between the panel guide and the backlight assembly, in contact with the light guide and fully offset from the light source (or fully overlapping the light guide) and maintaining a distance between the panel guide and the backlight assembly.

The most relevant reference, US 5,808,707 to Niibori et al. (Niibori) and JP 2000-066204 to Tanaka, fail to disclose or suggest the claimed invention.

As shown in Fig. 15, Niibori discloses a liquid crystal display device comprising a panel guide 17 provided between the backlight assembly 25 and the liquid crystal panel 1 to support the liquid crystal panel; and a pad 18 provided between the panel guide 17 and the backlight assembly 25, fully offset from the light source 28 (or fully overlapping the light guide 29) and maintaining a distance between the panel guide 17 and the backlight assembly 25; however, the pad 18 is not in contact with the light guide 29.

Meanwhile, as shown in Fig. 1, Tanaka discloses a liquid crystal display device comprising a panel guide 43 provided between the backlight assembly and the liquid crystal panel 10 to support the liquid crystal panel; and a pad 51 fully offset from the

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light source 42 and in contact with the light guide 41. However, the pad does not maintain a distance between the panel guide 43 and the backlight assembly because the pad is not provided between the panel guide 43 and the backlight assembly.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

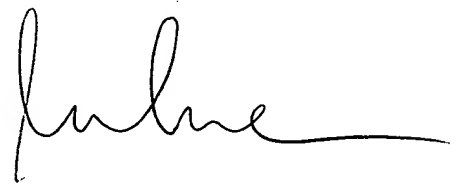
4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thoi V. Duong whose telephone number is (571) 272-2292. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Robert Kim, can be reached at (571) 272-2293.

Thoi Duong



03/29/2006



DUNG T. NGUYEN
PRIMARY EXAMINER